

We are at present raising money for the benefit of the Chicago Mission and in the near future we are going to have a "Handkerchief Bazar" for the benefit of the society.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SOCIETY
OF THE
PROGRESSIVE CHURCH.
MILLEDGEVILLE, - - - ILLINOIS.

To all our friends both far and near,
We crave your kind attention
So kindly lend us now your ear
While we the subject mention.

The ladies of this society will hold,
On a day not distant far
If we have been correctly told
A "Handkerchief Bazaar."
This, then is our plea in brief,
To help along our enterprise;
You shall each send a handkerchief,
Regardless of its kind or size.
To be without a handkerchief
You know is quite distressing.
For every one that's sent to us
Some one will waft a blessing.

If you favor our plea, please send us a handkerchief on or before April 1st., 1902.

CORA MILLER.

Christian Life

Four From the Sunday School Times

Power that Transforms Life

What a power Jesus Christ exercises over a life that has admitted him thru faith! How he reverses the aims, elevates the thoughts, purifies the passions, ennobles the relations, and glorifies the hopes of life! Paul found his life so absorbed in the Christ life that he exclaimed, "I live, and yet no longer I, but Christ liveth in me," and "for me to live in Christ." There is power in precept; there is greater power in imitation, and still greater in social intercourse. But the transfiguring influence of Jesus Christ is not that of one person acting on another thru external means, it is a spiritual union more intimate than any other. "He that is joined to the Lord is one spirit."

Repudiating Debts at Our Peril

In the hour of our need we have made promises to God. Where are they? In moments when we had a vision of the glory of the cross we pledged our service and our lives to our Master. Have we paid our vows? God is not a money lender who insists on the letter of his bond, nor a vindictive God who wreaks revenge if you withhold his sacrifice. And yet he holds us to our pledges,—for those hours are often the high tides of our lives, in which our souls are stirred to their depths, and in which the eternal meaning of life emerges from the fog of worldliness like an Alpine peak thru the clouds. Therefore the vows we make then register our highest perception of duty. To drop below that mark is to repudiate the clearest light we have had, and we do it at peril to our souls.

Coming Out from the World

Being not of the world is not so much a matter of places and things as a matter of spirit. Two men are in the same business, banking or manufacturing,—the one gets money by it without thought of others, and uses the money he gets by it without thought of others; the other engages in the same operations, but consideration for others enters into all his ways of production and of

dispersion. The one is worldly, the other has come apart from the ways of the world. The separateness of the Christian life is a separateness of conscientiousness, it is a separateness of unselfishness. So in all things—amusements, labors, acquisitions—it is not only and altogether the things that we allow ourselves to do, it is as well the spirit in which we do them, that counts in the divine judgment as to whether we are serving God or mammon.

God's Way Best

Life's highest, hardest lesson is trust. When we have learned that, blessed are we. Happiness comes when we have what pleases us, but blessedness—finer and deeper than happiness—comes when we rejoice in what we have, being confident that God's goodness is in it all. God never hangs a scarf of cloud up in the sky but he drapes it beautifully; God never strikes a harp amongst the fir trees with the fingers of the wind but he does so harmoniously; and a life,—God never so places or tunes it but that beautiful and harmonious possibilities are there. Our lesson is to have eyes that see, and ears that hear, and a heart that understands this wonderful working of our God.

The Reward of Giving

An incident is related of a little girl whose mother was a sick widow and who stopped a young man on the street and begged him to buy her chestnuts. He was poor, but could not withstand her pitiful look. He handed her a coin, and said, "I cannot use your chestnuts, but you are welcome to this." She thanked him and then hurried away. Twenty years passed. The little girl grew to womanhood and became the wife of a banker. Passing the library one day she saw a man with her husband whom she recognized as the man who years before had been kind to her. When he had gone she inquired his errand.

"He came to see if I would give him a vacant position in the bank."

"Will you?"

"I don't know."

"I wish you would," she said, and then told him the story of her poverty and the man's generosity.

The man sat that night beside his sick wife's bed, when a liveried servant brought him a note.

"We shall not starve," he exclaimed; "I have the position!" He opened the note and found enclosed a two hundred and fifty dollar check, with the words, "In grateful remembrance of the little silver piece a kind stranger gave the little chestnut girl twenty years ago."

Some Small Sweet Way

There's never a rose in all the world
But makes some green spray sweeter;
There's never a wind in all the sky
But makes some bird wing fleeter;
There's never a star but brings to heaven
Some silver radiance tender;
And never a rosy cloud but helps
To crown the sunset splendor;
No robin but may thrill some heart,
His dawn-like gladness voicing.
God gives us all some small sweet way
To set the world rejoicing.

—Anonymous

Missions

Chicago Letter.

We are glad that Brother Cassell is soon to visit us. The Lord willing we shall use him. Brother C. Rowland of Lanark, Ill., brother Samuel Fitz of Astoria, Ill. and Sister Etheridge of Milledgeville, Ill. were recent callers whose presence and encouragement made us glad. Come again. We are glad for the kindly message our friends of Milledgeville and elsewhere sent us. It is strengthening to our oft tired heart. May the Lord seal with the Holy Spirit the precious bonds of Christian fellowship.

The work here is steadily growing, and those who are steadfast in the faith and work which the Lord has given them to do, are growing in grace and the knowledge of the truth. The work among the indigent is a seed sowing the harvest from which will be reaped in due time. The sowing of the Word, as well as Christian acts and kindnesses, is the seed the Lord has said "should not return unto him void." Only the poor who have felt the needs of this life's comforts sorely, can know the good that has been done by helping the poor with the clothing friends have sent in. More can be used in that way.

We have to report the pleasure of a short visit just now from brethren Elias Lichty and B. F. Paterbaugh of Lanark. Come again, brethren. Don't wait to be invited.

A good sister writes me, enclosing five dollars, "I don't see why the brethren and sisters everywhere who love the Church and her missions, do not send their offerings to support them." My good sister, that is what puzzles many of us who are in places